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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BUREAU

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

Room A201
COGSWELL BUILDING



STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 449-2821

PLEASE RETURN

HELENA, MONTANA 59620



September 21, 1981

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Board of County Commissioners, Fergus County Courthouse, Lewistown, MT 59457
Mayor C. Wilber Lindstrand, 312 4th Avenue S., Lewistown, MT 59457
John Hughes City-County Planner, 312 4th Avenue S., Lewistown, MT
John S. and Ian Ireland, Gilt Edge Stage, Box 4065, Lewistown, MT 59457
Myron Holzheimer, Right of Way Bureau, Dept. of Highways, Helena, MT
Dick Isern, Central Montana Health District, Box 1150, Lewistown, MT
Environmental Quality Council, 1209 8th Avenue, Helena, MT 59620
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences, DHES, Cogswell Bldg., Helena, MT
x Harold Chambers, MT State Library, 930 E. Lyndale, Helena, MT

Re: Midstate Auto Salvage
Lewistown, Montana

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, Section 16-2.2(2)-P2030, Rule IV, the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Midstate Auto Salvage, Lewistown, Montana.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15) days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within the allotted time.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Mitchell

LARRY D. MITCHELL
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

LDM:vc
Encls.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601
(406)449-3946

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid Waste Management Bureau

Project or Application John and Ian Ireland dba/Midstate Auto Salvage

Description of Project The applicants have proposed establishing and operating
a new private motor vehicle wrecking facility east of Lewistown. The
attached map shows the exact location. Such facilities are required
to be licensed for operation by this department (Section 75-10-511 MCA 1979).

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats				X		
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution				X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality				X		
5. Aesthetics			X			X
6. Air quality				X		
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue			X			X
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income			X			X
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment			X			X
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			X
11. Industrial & commercial activity			X			X
12. Demands for energy				X		
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		X
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Montana Department of Highways

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. Fergus County Planning Director,
Central Montana Health District

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS Not necessary

PER Prepared by: LARRY D. MITCHELL

Date: September 17, 1981

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

5. Aesthetics

The Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal law and regulations require that wrecking facilities be screened from view such that junked vehicles as defined by Section 75-10-501 (3) MCA 1979 are not visible from public roadways. This proposed facility is located at the former Brand S Lumber mill approximately 3 miles east of Lewistown along U.S. Highway 87. The facility is required to be screened from this public road.

Although no specific shielding proposal has been submitted for the facility due to the owner's uncertainty regarding location and use of support buildings, the site is presently capable of operating lawfully as a motor vehicle wrecking facility if vehicle inventory is stored in the areas which are currently screened either by existing buildings or natural topography. There are four large buildings on the 30 acre site which can provide effective screening for a considerable vehicle inventory. Also, junked vehicles stored in the extreme south and south-east portion of the site should not be visible from Highway 87. As the business is expanded to other areas of the site, some artificial screening will be required in the form of fencing or earthwork.

Approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of the proposed facility there is a gravel road which connects with U.S. 87 and serves as access to a subdivision northeast of the junction. This road travels north from U.S. 87 up a hill to a bench above Boyd Creek. Screening the proposed facility from this roadway would be very difficult if not impossible as it gains elevation to the top of the bench such that one looks down on the site from the road. A sign at the junction with U.S. 87 states that it is a private road which serves only as access to the houses in the subdivision. As such, the law does not require that the facility be screened from vantage points along this roadway. Should this roadway be designated a county or public road in the future, a legal question may arise as to the status of the previously existing facility. Portions of the site are impossible to screen from this elevated road.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income
8. Quantity and distribution of employment

The successful operation of a motor vehicle wrecking facility may have a minor but positive impact on any or all of the above criteria. This proposal will replace a now inoperative sawmill operation with a new business which has an excellent chance for survival and growth in this area. The Central Montana region and, specifically, the Lewistown area does not presently have an aggressively operated salvage parts business available to it. There are several motor vehicle wrecking facilities licensed for operation in the region but most are part-time businesses or hobbies.

The applicant/operators have had previous experience in the business in another state and plan to operate Midstate Auto as a full time, full service facility. It should provide income and employment opportunities to the owners and may result in some additional employment opportunities for secondary support trades and industries. Most obvious needs include the construction trades of carpentry, plumbing, electrical, and others needed to convert a sawmill to use as a vehicle salvage business. These businesses traditionally have a routine need for and a positive impact on such trades as transportation and shipping, communication and advertising, and tool and equipment service and repair.

10. Demands for government services

Periodic routine field inspections of motor vehicle wrecking facilities are required by state and county junk vehicle program officials to assure that they are operated and maintained in compliance with the Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal law and rule. A minor amount of administrative effort is required in establishing and maintaining office files on the facility and in routine mailings of information and correspondence.

11. Industrial and commercial activity.

Vehicle salvage operations are generally considered to be heavy commercial or light industrial land uses. Operation of this facility will simply replace a previous industrial use at this site. Additional short-term or even immediate long-term industrial growth in this area is not anticipated as a result of establishing this particular operation. Except for very large-scale operations, salvage industries do not generally influence the growth of adjoining commercial enterprises although in the long term they may discourage housing or residential development.

13. Locally adopted environmental plans and goals.

The establishment and operation of a motor vehicle wrecking facility at the proposed location does not violate any presently adopted land use ordinances according to a certification on the license application by the Fergus County planning director.

14. Transportation networks and goals.

Access to this proposed facility will be provided exclusively by U.S. Highway 87, an uncontrolled access highway. It is doubtful that the operation of this vehicle salvage business will contribute to any greater traffic flow or safety problems than the previous sawmill did. However, a potential traffic safety problem may be of future concern to highway engineers as the turn-off to the old sawmill (proposed salvage yard) is at the bottom of a hill coming out of a corner on U.S. 87. Aside from a limited visibility problem, an additional problem is presented by another turn off located directly across from the old sawmill access. The north route leads to the Mr. "M" landfill which presently has a heavier flow of traffic than what is expected from the proposed salvage facility. Except under the most hazardous circumstances, (limited visibility due to weather, adverse road conditions, congested traffic on U.S. 87 and two oncoming vehicles both turning left across traffic lanes) this should not be a major problem. The observation is made here for the interest of the appropriate officials and affected individuals.



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Helena, Montana 59601

MOTOR VEHICLE WRECKING FACILITY

APPLICATION FOR LICENSE

Complete this form and return with attachments to: **TERRENCE D. CARMODY, CHIEF**
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Montana Department of Health and
Environmental Sciences
Helena, Montana 59601

1. Name of applicant: John S. Ireland & Ian Ireland
2. Name of facility: Midstate Auto Salvage
3. Address: 3114 Edge Stage, Box 4065 Lewistown, MT 59451
4. Size and legal description of facility: (30.7 Acres)

see map for description

5. If you are not the owner of the premises, give name and address of lessor who holds title to the property:

Name: see map for description

Address: _____

6. Attachments: a. Map of city or county showing proposed location of facility.

- b. Drawing of proposed facility showing especially the type and adequacy of shielding of facility from public view and location of buildings.

7. I hereby certify that the site of the planned motor vehicle wrecking facility is in accordance with local government zoning and ordinances. (To be signed by appropriate local government official having knowledge of local zoning ordinances).

TITLE: Planning Director -

OF: Lewistown & Fergus Co.

(City or County)

8. Date (year and month) that your facility will begin operation: August 1981

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: John S. Ireland

PHONE: 538-5880

TITLE: John S. Ireland

DATE: 7/29/81

Owners & operators





